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Maryland Monthly Labor Review

August, 1994

Maryland
Department of Economic & Employment Development

Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Mark L. Wasserman, Secretary

LABOR FORCE DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

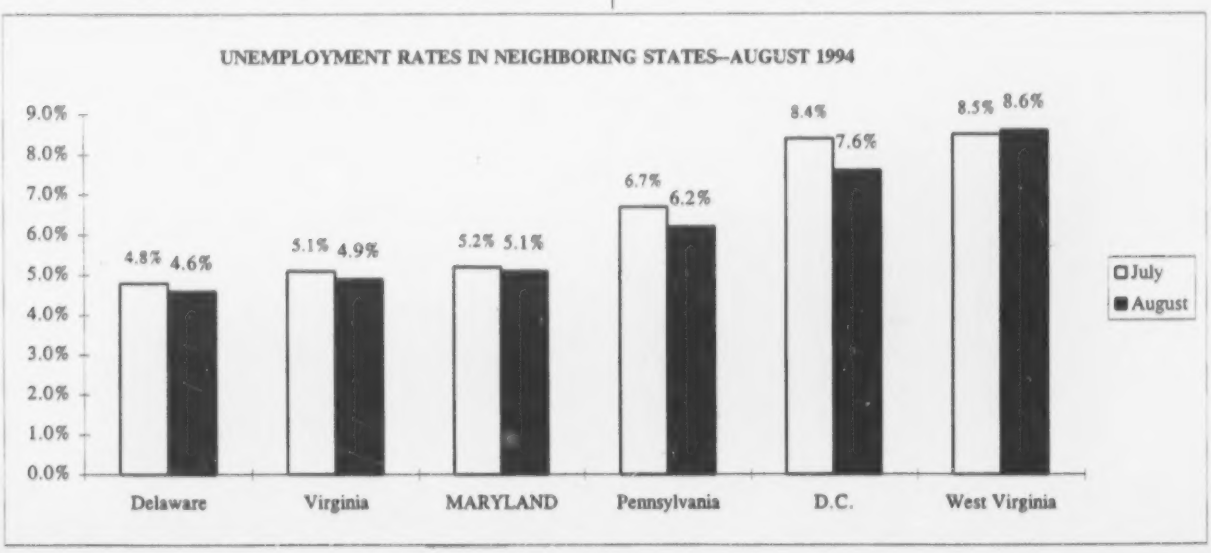
Maryland's jobless rate edged down slightly in August, dipping by 0.1 percentage points to 5.1 percent. The decline was due largely to the withdrawal of summer workers from the labor market. Nationally, downsizing in the labor force also caused joblessness to decline from 6.2 percent to 5.9 percent.

Employment reductions are not uncommon during August. With the summer season drawing to a close , employers start to trim their seasonal workforces. During August, the number of employed declined by just over 17,600 persons to 2,712,594. The withdrawal of seasonal jobholders from the labor market helped to offset this decline and also lower the unemployment count by more than 5,350 persons to 138,024.

Following seasonal adjustment, which discounts routine summer contractions, employment gains helped move the jobless rate down from 5.5 percent in July to 5.3 percent in August. August's employment increase, which marks the fourth consecutive month of expansion, reinforces the pattern of slow, yet consistent, improvement in the economy.

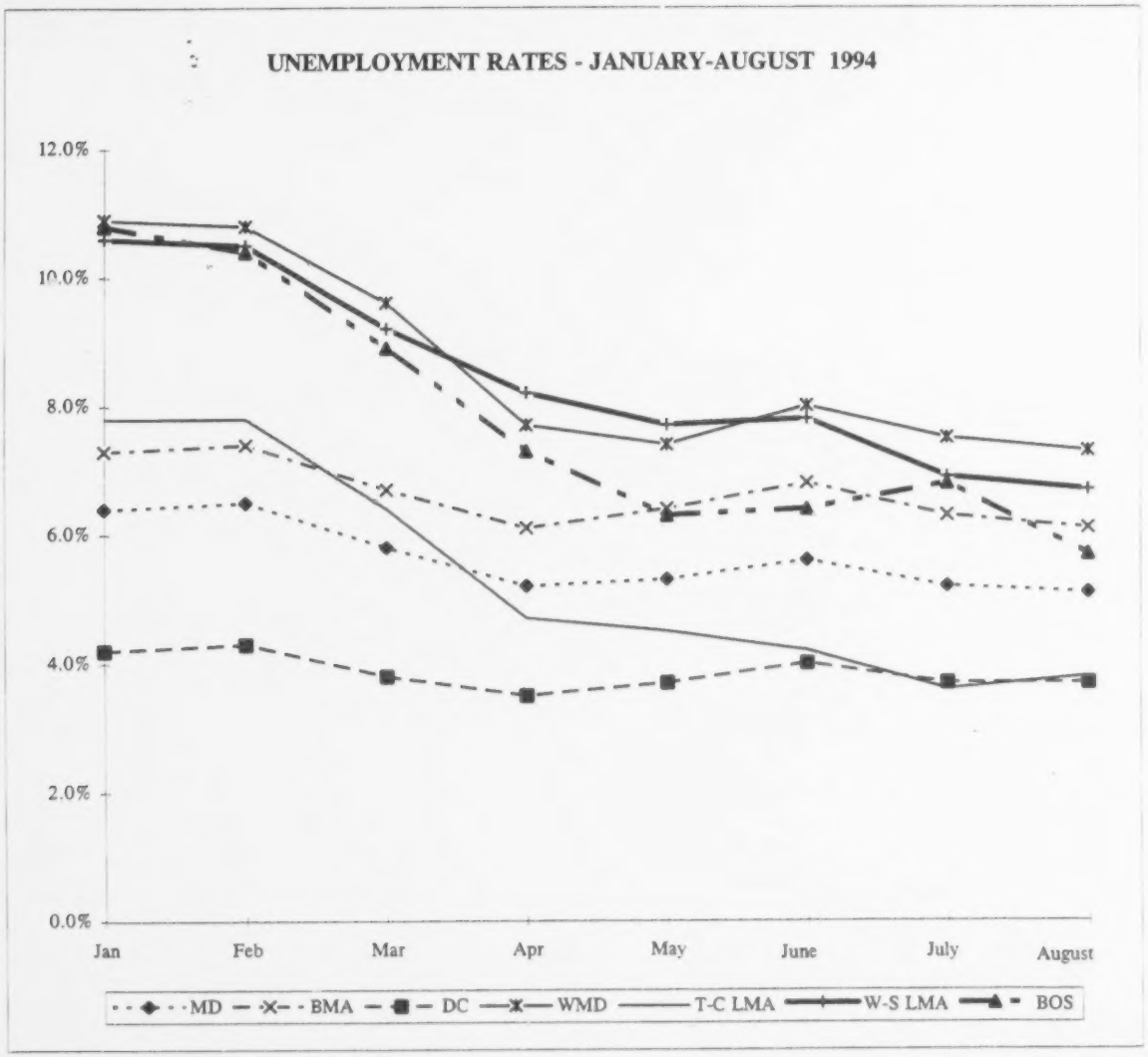
	Unadjusted		Seasonally Adjusted	
	August 1994	July 1994	August 1994	July 1994
Civilian Labor Force	2,712,594	2,735,570	2,683,715	2,671,123
Total Employment	2,574,570	2,592,182	2,540,765	2,525,494
Total Unemployment	138,024	143,388	142,950	145,629
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.5
National Unemployment Rate	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.1

Labor force declines eased jobless rates down throughout the region. The largest downward movement occurred in D.C. where a decline of almost a full percentage point lowered joblessness to 7.6 percent in August. In West Virginia, the only state to report a jobless increase, employment declines outpaced those in the labor force, causing joblessness to inch up slightly to a regional high of 8.6 percent in August.



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - MARYLAND AND REGIONS

Area	AUGUST 1994		JULY 1994	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Maryland	138,024	5.1%	143,388	5.2%
Baltimore Metropolitan Area	74,912	6.1%	77,731	6.3%
Maryland's DC Suburbs	41,910	3.7%	42,421	3.7%
Western Maryland	8,318	7.3%	8,606	7.5%
Talbot-Caroline LMA	1,312	3.8%	1,262	3.6%
Wicomico-Somerset LMA	4,013	6.7%	4,228	6.9%
Balance of State	7,559	5.7%	9,141	6.8%



REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

Labor force patterns in the Baltimore Metro Area were similar to those statewide in that the withdrawal of workers from the job market helped to absorb employment declines and to reduce the number of jobless workers. During August, 74,912 area residents, or 6.1 percent of the labor force, were without a job, down from July's count of 77,731 and rate of 6.3 percent. Unemployment rates were lower throughout the region with the exception of Howard County. The largest downward movements occurred in Carroll and Harford counties where vacation recalls in manufacturing industries helped to remove workers from the unemployment rolls. Baltimore City's rate, dipping slightly to 9.4 percent, was the highest local unemployment rate during August.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

In the suburban area, labor market conditions appeared relatively low key during August. The number of unemployed were about 500 fewer in August, however, this decline was not substantial enough to move the regional jobless rate from its July level of 3.7 percent. At the local level, unemployment rates were either unchanged or declined slightly in all but Frederick County. In Frederick County, close to 300 workers were added to the jobless count, increasing the unemployment rate by 0.3 percentage points to 3.9 percent in August. Temporary furloughs in manufacturing and a permanent layoff in the finance sector contributed to the county's jobless increase.

WESTERN MARYLAND

The number of unemployed in the region fell by nearly 300 persons, scaling the jobless rate down from 7.5 percent to 7.3 percent—its lowest level to date in 1994. Even with this decline, the Western region continued to report the highest rate among the state's regions. Locally, trends were mixed. Washington County, the only jurisdiction within the region to experience a jobless decline, reported a rate of 5.9 percent in August, down form July's estimate of 6.5 percent. A decline in the number of jobseekers, coupled with hiring in finance and business services, helped to improve labor market conditions in the county.

TALBOT-CAROLINE LMA

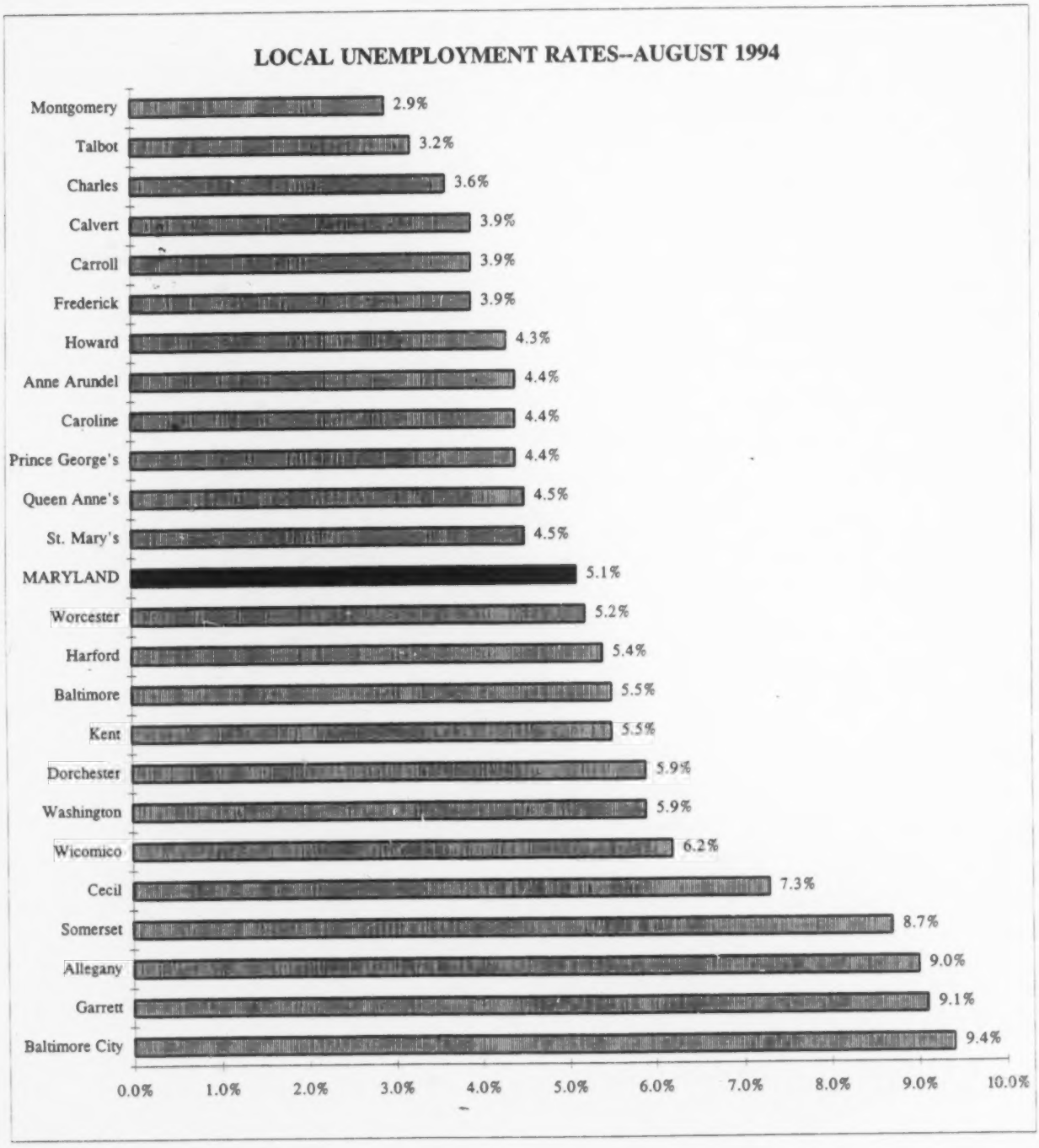
In the Talbot-Caroline LMA, the only area in the state to report an unemployment upturn, the number of jobless workers rose to 1,312 persons and the unemployment rate to 3.8 percent in August. The area upturn was confined to Talbot County where the addition of just 60 people to the unemployment rolls pushed joblessness up from 2.8 percent to 3.2 percent.

WICOMICO-SOMERSET LMA

Employment in the area declined over the month, however, a corresponding reduction in the labor force lowered unemployment by 215 persons. With fewer unemployed workers, the jobless rate eased down by 0.2 percentage points to 6.7 percent in August. The regional jobless decline was fueled by activity in Wicomico County's labor market which showed unemployment dropping to 6.2 percent in August.

EASTERN SHORE AND SOUTHERN MARYLAND

A seasonal reduction in the labor force helped to remove almost 1,600 persons from the jobless rolls and lower the regional unemployment rate by more than a full percentage point to 5.7 percent. Declining unemployment was the norm throughout the area. In Cecil, the only county in the state to report an employment increase, recalls in Delaware's auto industry helped to push the jobless rate down from 9.7 percent to 7.3 percent.



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STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE
AUGUST 1994

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	AUGUST	JULY*	AUGUST	JULY*	AUGUST	JULY*	AUGUST	JULY*	AUG.1993***
MARYLAND	2,712,594	2,735,570	2,574,570	2,592,182	138,024	143,388	5.1	5.2	6.0
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,229,347	1,236,702	1,154,435	1,158,971	74,912	77,731	6.1	6.3	7.3
BALTIMORE CITY	323,979	325,497	293,532	294,686	30,447	30,811	9.4	9.5	10.9
ANNE ARUNDEL	229,381	230,516	219,220	220,081	10,161	10,435	4.4	4.5	5.7
BALTIMORE	373,328	375,161	352,826	354,213	20,502	20,948	5.5	5.6	7.0
CARROLL	68,599	69,347	65,917	66,176	2,682	3,171	3.9	4.6	4.8
HARFORD	100,283	101,919	94,891	95,264	5,392	6,655	5.4	6.5	6.3
HOWARD	115,837	116,248	110,910	111,346	4,927	4,902	4.3	4.2	4.7
QUEEN ANNE'S	17,940	18,016	17,139	17,207	801	809	4.5	4.5	4.8
D. C. AREA	1,141,560	1,152,229	1,099,650	1,109,808	41,910	42,421	3.7	3.7	4.2
CALVERT	32,807	33,096	31,527	31,819	1,280	1,277	3.9	3.9	4.6
CHARLES	60,424	61,070	58,266	58,805	2,158	2,265	3.6	3.7	4.2
FREDERICK	94,504	95,054	90,800	91,639	3,704	3,415	3.9	3.6	4.0
MONTGOMERY	484,419	488,988	470,317	474,662	14,102	14,326	2.9	2.9	3.3
PRINCE GEORGE'S	469,405	474,022	448,739	452,884	20,666	21,138	4.4	4.5	5.1
WESTERN MARYLAND	114,695	115,278	106,377	106,672	8,318	8,606	7.3	7.5	8.8
ALLEGANY	34,612	34,743	31,484	31,657	3,128	3,086	9.0	8.9	10.1
GARRETT	14,199	14,231	12,906	12,933	1,293	1,298	9.1	9.1	10.9
WASHINGTON	65,884	66,304	61,987	62,082	3,897	4,222	5.9	6.4	7.7
TALBOT-CAROLINE LMA	34,877	35,442	33,565	34,180	1,312	1,262	3.8	3.6	5.0
CAROLINE	16,098	16,390	15,384	15,666	714	724	4.4	4.4	7.0
TALBOT	18,779	19,052	18,181	18,514	598	538	3.2	2.8	3.2
WICOMICO-SOMERSET LMA	60,053	61,059	56,040	56,831	4,013	4,228	6.7	6.9	7.1
SOMERSET	11,659	11,831	10,646	10,797	1,013	1,034	8.7	8.7	9.6
WICOMICO	48,394	49,228	45,394	46,034	3,000	3,194	6.2	6.5	6.5
BALANCE OF STATE	132,061	134,861	124,502	125,720	7,559	9,141	5.7	6.8	6.7
CECIL	38,826	39,703	35,977	35,850	2,849	3,853	7.3	9.7	8.3
DORCHESTER	17,042	17,558	16,032	16,309	1,010	1,249	5.9	7.1	7.5
KENT	10,883	11,270	10,283	10,501	600	769	5.5	6.8	5.9
ST. MARY'S	44,054	44,637	42,054	42,528	2,000	2,109	4.5	4.7	5.5
WORCESTER	21,256	21,693	20,156	20,532	1,100	1,161	5.2	5.4	5.9
UNITED STATES**	132,361,000	132,783,000	124,493,000	124,503,000	7,868,000	8,281,000	5.9	6.2	6.5

*Estimates for the state are revised.
**Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
***Data for 1994 are not directly comparable with data for 1993 and earlier years. Further information is available upon request.
NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS BY PLACE OF WORK

Maryland's industrial payrolls continued to retreat in August as the normal round of seasonal layoffs reduced employment counts in a number of major industry lines. Manufacturing and construction were the only industries which managed to sidestep the monthly downturn. In all, Maryland businesses cut their employment by about 6,600 jobs over the month, with declining employment the norm in each of the state's four regions.

The services industry was the biggest job loser over the month, declining by 3,700 jobs. Almost one-third of the industry descent was tied to continued semester reductions at educational facilities. Seasonal downsizing lowered job counts in a number of other services industries, including amusements, hotels, agricultural and personal services. The slow pace of the construction industry contributed to the elimination of about 400 jobs at engineering and management firms. Regionally, Western Maryland was the only area to deviate from statewide trends. About 600 jobs were added in the region's services sector, with hiring in business services accounting for a large portion of the upturn.

Just over one-fourth of the overall monthly decline was centered in the trade sector. Declines, totaling 1,700 jobs, were spread across a number of industries, with the largest occurring in building material and general merchandise stores. Food stores, apparel shops and miscellaneous retail establishments also lowered their employment levels, with a combined reduction of about 700 jobs. Auto dealers and restaurants were the only retail components to report hiring activity over the month.

Employment in transportation, communications and utilities was little changed in August, declining by about 200 jobs over the month. The drop was confined solely to the transportation sector. The finance, insurance and real estate industry reported about 600 fewer jobs in August, with declines evenly split between the finance and insurance components. The statewide reductions were tied to layoffs occurring primarily in the D.C. Suburban region. The drop-off in mortgage refinancing applications has impacted negatively upon employers in this sector.

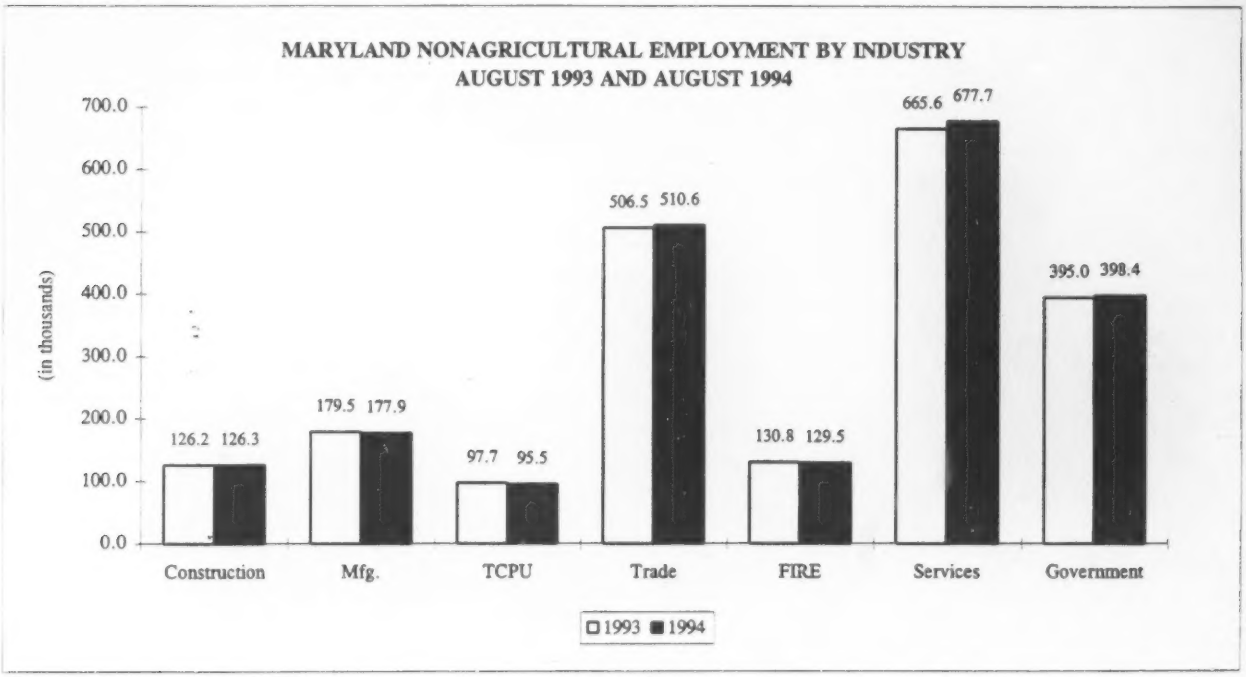
In the public sector, cuts in local government employment dominated the monthly movement. Staggered layoffs in education trimmed local payrolls by about 1,600 jobs, a decline which was extended even further by job reductions in summer maintenance and recreation programs. The deficit created by these reductions was, however, diminished by an upturn in state government where the initial round of recalls in education uplifted the employment picture.

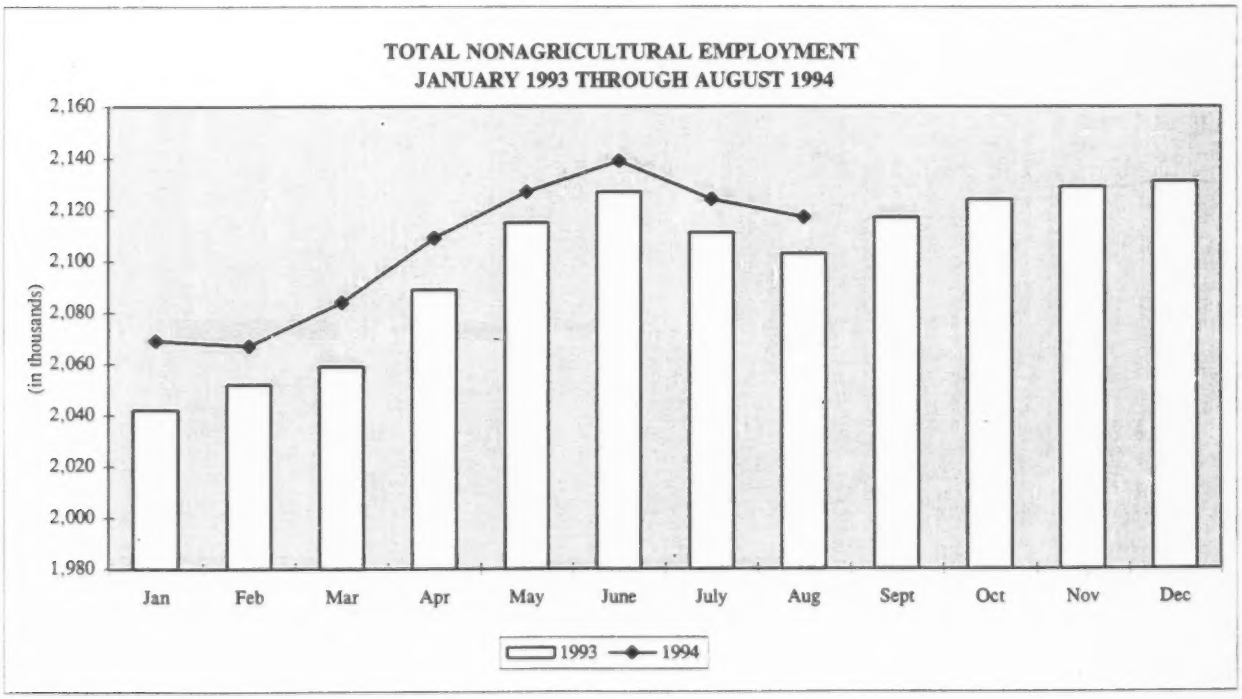
The construction industry continued to turn in a positive performance during August, extending the string of consecutive gains in this industry to six. An increase of 500 jobs was reported over the month. This increase, while modest, raised employment in the sector above its year ago average for the first time in 1994. The monthly gain was shared by general building and special trade contractors, with hiring in special trades foremost.

Lastly, in the manufacturing industry, employment returned to its early summer level as workers, furloughed in July for vacation shutdowns, resumed their work schedules. In all, about 1,100 jobs were added to manufacturing payrolls during August, with about 90.0 percent of the upturn occurring among nondurable goods producers. Food processing industries reported the largest increase, followed closely by textile products.

Production workers employed in Maryland's factories fared better in August, working slightly more hours and earning higher paychecks. The average workweek, at 41.7 hours in August, rose above that of 41.6 in July and was 0.5 of an hour over last year's schedule. Hourly paychecks, rising by about 1.4 percent over the month, pushed up weekly earnings by almost $9.00 to $550.44 in August. In durable goods where almost a full hour was added to weekly schedules, hourly rates rose by more than 2.0 percent to $14.17. At the detailed level, the most pronounced movement occurred in transportation equipment where the addition of just over 4.0 hours bumped workweeks up to 45.7 hours. This extension, coupled with an increase in hourly pay, added nearly $100.00 to weekly checks.

In nondurable goods, workweeks dipped slightly from 40.8 hours in July to 40.5 hours in August. This shortened schedule caused weekly checks to decline slightly to $502.61. Among nondurable industries, overtime schedules prevailed in four of the six reporting industries. Rubber products had the longest workweek at 44.1 hours while printing industries paid the highest rate at $14.76 per hour.





NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
AUGUST 1994

Industry	August 1994	July** 1994	August 1993	Percent Change August 1993-August 1994
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,117.1	2,123.7	2,102.5	0.7
Goods Producing	305.4	303.7	306.9	-0.5
Mining	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.0
Construction	126.3	125.8	126.2	0.1
Heavy Construction	15.2	15.3	14.8	2.7
Manufacturing	177.9	176.8	179.5	-0.9
Durable Goods	86.4	86.3	86.3	0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	3.8	3.8	3.9	-2.6
Stone, Clay, & Glass Products	6.7	6.7	6.7	0.0
Concrete, Gypsum, Plaster	4.1	4.1	4.1	0.0
Other Stone, Clay, & Glass	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.0
Primary Metal Industries	8.2	8.2	8.4	-2.4
Blast Furnaces	6.6	6.6	6.8	-2.9
Fabricated Metal Products	8.2	8.3	8.3	-1.2
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	3.1	3.1	3.2	-3.1
Other Fabricated Metal Products (Inc.342,343,345-349)	4.3	4.4	4.3	0.0
Industrial Machinery	14.3	14.5	14.0	2.1
Refrigeration & Service Machinery	2.0	2.4	1.9	5.3
Other Industrial Machinery & Equipment (Inc. 352-357)	8.3	8.4	8.2	1.2
Electronic Equipment	13.2	13.0	13.2	0.0
Communications Equipment	5.2	5.2	4.9	6.1
Electronic Component	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1
Other Electronic Equipment	4.7	4.7	5.1	-7.8
Transportation Equipment	10.4	10.2	10.2	2.0
Motor Vehicles	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.0
Other Transportation (Inc. 372-375,379)	3.6	3.6	3.7	-2.7
Instruments & Related	16.2	16.4	16.4	-1.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	2.2	2.1	2.2	0.0
Nondurable Goods	91.5	90.5	93.2	-1.8
Food & Kindred Products	22.1	21.7	22.8	-3.1
Meat Products	5.1	4.9	5.4	-5.6
Beverages	4.0	4.2	4.1	-2.4
Other Food & Kindred (Inc. 202-207)	8.4	8.0	8.3	1.2
Textile Mill, Apparel	8.8	8.5	8.8	0.0
Paper & Allied Products	8.4	8.4	8.8	-4.5
Printing & Publishing	27.8	27.7	27.7	0.4
Chemicals and Allied Products	13.6	13.6	14.1	-3.5
Rubber & Miscellaneous Plastics	8.5	8.3	8.7	-2.3

Industry	August 1994	July** 1994	August 1993	Percent Change August 1993-August 1994
Service Producing	1,811.7	1,820.0	1,795.6	0.9
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	95.5	95.7	97.7	-2.3
Transportation	54.1	54.1	54.4	-0.6
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	28.3	28.3	28.4	-0.4
Communications & Utilities	41.4	41.6	43.3	-4.4
Communications	26.7	26.8	26.9	-0.7
Electric, Gas, Sanitary	14.7	14.8	16.4	-10.4
Trade	510.6	512.3	506.5	0.8
Wholesale Trade	101.3	101.5	101.5	-0.2
Retail Trade	409.3	410.8	405.0	1.1
Building Materials, Garden Supplies	16.9	17.4	17.0	-0.6
General Merchandise Stores	40.8	41.3	41.1	-0.7
Food Stores	65.6	65.8	64.2	2.2
Eating & Drinking Places	137.9	137.8	137.6	0.2
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	129.5	130.1	130.8	-1.0
Finance	59.4	59.7	59.0	0.7
Depository Institutions	39.0	39.0	38.8	0.5
Commercial Banks	24.7	24.8	25.3	-2.4
Insurance	35.5	35.8	37.0	-4.1
Insurance Carriers	23.6	23.9	24.7	-4.5
Real Estate	34.6	34.6	34.8	-0.6
Services	677.7	681.4	665.6	1.8
Business Services	144.4	144.6	142.2	1.5
Health Services	181.1	181.0	178.2	1.6
Hospitals	81.5	81.8	82.1	-0.7
Legal Services	15.4	15.9	15.5	-0.6
Educational Services	34.9	36.0	33.2	5.1
Private Colleges, Universities	20.3	20.4	18.9	7.4
Total Government	398.4	400.5	395.0	0.9
Total Federal Government	131.7	131.6	135.2	-2.6
Total State & Local Government	266.7	268.9	259.8	2.7
Total State Government	92.8	91.4	91.3	1.6
State Education	29.9	28.4	29.4	1.7
Other State Government	62.9	63.0	61.9	1.6
Total Local Government	173.9	177.5	168.5	3.2
Local Education	92.8	94.4	89.2	4.0
Other Local Government	81.1	83.1	79.3	2.3

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding and exclusion of some SIC's.
Data are not seasonally adjusted.
**Estimates are revised.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--AUGUST 1994

Industry	Baltimore Metropolitan Area		Maryland Portion D.C. Suburbs		Western Maryland		Eastern Shore-Southern Maryland	
	August 1994	July 1994**	August 1994	July 1994**	August 1994	July 1994**	August 1994	July 1994**
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1,102.1	1,105.5	773.8	776.1	93.6	93.7	150.7	152.2
Goods Producing	168.0	166.6	87.9	88.1	20.8	21.2	30.8	30.4
Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.2
Construction	61.0	60.6	53.7	53.5	5.1	5.4	8.4	8.4
Manufacturing	106.8	105.8	34.0	34.4	15.0	15.1	22.2	21.8
Durable Goods	54.4	53.5	17.0	17.4	6.6	6.7	8.8	8.7
Nondurable Goods	52.4	52.3	17.0	17.0	8.4	8.4	13.4	13.1
Service Producing	934.1	938.9	685.9	688.0	72.8	72.5	119.9	121.8
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	51.2	50.9	32.0	31.9	5.3	5.3	8.2	8.2
Trade	254.9	254.1	190.6	191.0	25.0	24.9	42.3	42.2
Wholesale Trade	59.6	59.3	31.0	31.2	4.7	4.6	5.7	5.7
Retail Trade	195.3	194.8	159.6	159.8	20.3	20.3	36.6	36.5
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	73.4	73.3	47.4	47.8	3.4	3.4	5.3	5.4
Services	352.2	354.3	256.6	257.8	24.7	24.1	39.4	40.1
Total Government	202.4	206.3	159.3	159.5	14.4	14.8	24.7	25.9
Federal	48.3	48.1	75.0	75.1	1.7	1.7	6.7	6.7
State	67.3	67.3	17.1	15.5	4.4	4.6	5.0	5.1
Local	86.8	90.9	67.2	68.9	8.3	8.5	13.0	14.1

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.
**Estimates are revised.
Selected data below the major industry level is available upon request. Estimates are also available for Baltimore City.
Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
AUGUST 1994

Industry	Average Weekly Hours		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Hourly Earnings	
	August 1994	July 1994	August 1994	July 1994	August 1994	July 1994
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	41.7	41.6	$550.44	$541.63	$13.20	$13.02
Durable Goods	43.3	42.5	613.56	589.90	14.17	13.88
Lumber and Wood Products	40.0	39.8	362.40	364.97	9.06	9.17
Stone, Clay, and Glass Products	45.9	45.2	565.03	551.89	12.31	12.21
Primary Metal Industries	47.6	48.1	867.27	870.61	18.22	18.10
Fabricated Metals	43.5	42.4	517.22	498.62	11.89	11.76
Industrial Machinery	42.1	42.1	612.56	587.72	14.55	13.96
Electronic Equipment	39.6	39.4	472.82	464.92	11.94	11.80
Transportation Equipment	45.7	41.6	824.89	725.50	18.05	17.44
Instruments and Related Products	40.0	40.2	560.00	559.99	14.00	13.93
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	40.5	39.5	413.10	406.06	10.20	10.28
Nondurable Goods	40.5	40.8	502.61	502.66	12.41	12.32
Food and Kindred Products	41.0	41.5	484.62	492.61	11.82	11.87
Textile Mill, Apparel	35.0	37.6	284.90	307.57	8.14	8.18
Paper and Allied Products	42.9	43.0	562.85	566.31	13.12	13.17
Printing and Publishing	39.0	38.4	575.64	556.03	14.76	14.48
Chemicals and Allied Products	41.6	42.3	551.20	555.82	13.25	13.14
Rubber and Plastic Products	44.1	43.6	466.58	459.98	10.58	10.55
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	42.5	42.0	$587.35	$575.40	$13.82	$13.70
Durable Goods	44.5	43.0	673.73	640.70	15.14	14.90
Nondurable Goods	40.8	41.1	512.86	518.68	12.57	12.62

NOTE: Data are not seasonally adjusted.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

	August 1994	July 1994	August 1993
Initial Claims	19,331	18,111	14,922
Weeks Claimed	200,084	169,582	202,356
First Payments	8,550	9,554	10,145
Final Payments	4,006	4,135	1,177
Weeks Paid	158,020	136,066	163,089
Net Benefit Amount	$28,533,159	$24,531,020	$29,637,755
Average Check Amount	$180.57	$180.29	$181.73

Initial filings during August, based on a five week reporting period, were about 6.7 percent higher than those filed during July's four week period. Claims filings rose in each of the state's regions with the exception of Western Maryland where a reduction in filings at the Hagerstown local office pulled the regional total down by 7.6 percent to 1,662 in August.

In similar fashion, the number of weeks claimed, which have consistently declined over the past four months, advanced during August. Unemployed workers filed for nearly 200,100 weeks of benefits, an increase of 18.0 percent over July's figure. Even with this increase, the number of weeks claimed were down from August 1993's figure of 202,356. The number of weeks claimed were higher in each of the regions, with the D.C. Suburbs reporting the largest percentage increase, of 19.1 percent, over the month.

About 79.0 percent of all weeks claimed during August, or 158,020 weeks, resulted in payment, with weekly checks averaging $180.57. First payments, at 8,550, accounted for 5.4 percent of all checks issued during August while final payments represented another 2.5 percent of the monthly disbursements. Final payments, which dropped slightly over the month to 4,006 in August, were fewer in all regions of the state except the D.C. Suburban Area.

The payment of an additional 21,954 weeks of benefits during August increased the outlay from the UI Trust Fund by just over $4.0 million to $28.5 million.

REGIONAL INDICATORS
AUGUST 1994

	BMA	DC Suburbs	Western Maryland	Balance of State
Initial Claims	10,463	5,024	1,662	1,798
Weeks Claimed	106,648	46,337	13,032	15,569
First Payments	4,660	2,099	594	715
Final Payments	2,236	914	278	259
Weeks Paid	86,306	37,621	10,793	12,704
Net Benefit Amount	$15,490,596	$7,182,741	$1,760,121	$2,021,067
Average Check Amount	$179.48	$190.92	$163.08	$159.09

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